

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3096

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, PFOR

SUBJECT: 32D GA: INSCRIPTION AND ALLOCATION OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. SUMMARY. THIS TEL CONTAINS OUR RECOMMENDATIONS ON INSCRIPTION AND ALLOCATION QUESTIONS THAT WILL COME BEFORE THE GENERAL COMMITTEE ON 22 AND 23 SEPTEMBER. TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE WE WOULD LIKE TO ADDESSS THESE PROCEDURAL ISSUES IN AN UNCONTENTIOUS WAY, RESERVING THAT STATEMENT OF US VIEWS UNTIL THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TAKES UP THE SUBSTANCE OF THESE ITEMS. END SUMMARY.

2. ETAILS. INSCRIPTION. OUR GENERAL POSITION WOULD BE TO SUPPORT INSCRIPTION OF ITEMS REQUESTED BY MEMBERS STATES REGARDLESS OF OUR VIEWS ON SUBSTANCE. CONSISTENT WITH THE SO-CALLED TRADITION OF LIBERAL INSCRPTION WHICH THE US HAS FOLLOWED FOR MANY YEARS, WE HAVE OPPOSED INSCRIPTION ONLY ON THOSE SINGULAR OCCASIONS INVOLVING A DIRECT US INTEREST, E.G., THE UNSUCCESSFUL CUBAN EFFORT IN 1971 TO INSCRIBE AN ITEM ON PUERTO RICO.

3. (A) WE SHOULD SUPPORT THE AUSTRALIAN-LED PORPOSAL FOR A NEW ITEM FOR A STUDY OF THE MULTILATERAL TREATY-MAKINGPROCESS WITH A VIEW TO IMPORVING THAT PROCESS. (B) THE AF GROUP HAS ASKED FOR INSCRIPTION OF THE "QUESTION OF THE CAMORIAN
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ISLAND OF MAYOTTE" PURSANT TO AN OAU HEADS OF STATE DECISION. LAST YEAR FRANCE VOTED NO; IN DEFERENCE TO FRENCH REQUEST WE ABSTAINED ALONG WITH THREE OTHER GC MEMBERS, EIGHTEEN VOTING YES. FRENCH MISSION HAS NOT YETTOLD US OF ITS POSITION. THEY MAY POSSIBLY ABSTAIN THIS YEAR, IN WHICHCASE WE SHOULD VOTE YES; IF THEY NOTE NO AND ASK THA WE ABSTAIN, WE SHOULD REPEAT LAST YEAR'S ABSTENTION.

(C) IN ACCORDANCE WITH USUAL PRACTICE, WE WOULD EXPECT GC CHAIRMAN MOJSOV TO HANDLE EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL FOR A NEW ITEM ON ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES BY ASKING WHETHER ANY GC DELEGATION OBJECTS. WE RECOMMEND US GO ALONG WITH INSCRIPTION AND MAKE A BRIEF STATEMENT NOTING OUR LIBERAL INSCRIPTION TRADITION BUT RESERVING AS TO ONE-SIDED WORDING OF THE PROPOSED ITEM AND THE SUPPORTING FAHMY LETTER ACCORDING TO WHICH THE NEW ITEM WOULD BE ENTITLED "RECENT ILLEGAL ISRAELI MEASURES IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES DESIGNED TO CHANGE THE LEGAL STATUS, GEOGRAPHICAL NATURE AND DEMOGRAPHIC COMPOSITIONS OF THOSE TERRITORIES IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UN, OF ISRAEL'S INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1949 AND OF UN RESOLUTIONS, AND OBSTRUCTION OF EFFORTS AIMED AT ACHIEVING A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST." THERE IS NO BASIS FOR EXPECTING ANY OTHER MEMBER OF THE GC TO ASK FOR A VOTE ON INSCRIPTION OF THE ITEM.

4. (D) ON GRENADAN PM GAIRY'S PROPOSAL FOR A SECRETARIAT STUDY OF UFO'S, WE WOULD LIKEWISE NOT OBJECT TO A CONSENSUS GC RECOMMENDATION. WE AGREE WITH OTHER PERMANENT MEMBERS ON SILLINESS OF THE ITEM BUT TRYING TO PRESERVE THE GA AGAINST TRIVIALIZATION OF THIS SORT IS NOT A BURDEN THAT WE SHOULD ASSUME IN THE GC IN VIEW OF OTHER US INTEREST AT THE 32D SESSION.

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5. ALLOCATION. MOST CONTROVERSIAL ALLOCATION ISSUE CONCERNS CYPRUS ITEM. LIKELY DEVELOPMENT IS REPEAT OF LAST YEAR'S DEBATE WHICH LED TO ALLOCATION OF CYPRUS ITEM TO PLENARY WITH PROVISION FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE TO HEAR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES. THIS RESULT WAS OVER A TURKISH NEGATIVE VOTE, US AND EIGHT OTHER ABSTENTIONS, AND 12 VOTES IN FAVOR.

(PLENARY SUBSEQUENTLY ACCEPTED GC RECOMMENDATION WITHOUT FURTHER VOTE.) WE WOULD RECOMMEND AN ABSTENTION IF CHAIRMAN PROPOSES FOLLOWING 1976 FORMULA. HOWEVER, IF ALL AGREED TO ALLOCATION TO , AND HEARING OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES IN, PLENARY, WE SHOULD NOT DISSENT. AT ONE TIME THE US OPPOSED ANY GA DECISIONS, WHETHER ON ALLOCATION OR OTHERWISE, THAT WOULD RESULT IN PERSONS OTHER THAN REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER STATES BEING HEARD IN PLENARY. HOWEVER, GIVEN APPEARANCE OF ARAFAT IN PLENARY IN 1974, OTHER PLO SPOKESMEN IN 1975 AND 1976, AND ANC AND PAC SPOKESMEN WHEN PLENARY TOOK UP APARTHEID ITEM LAST YEAR, WE THINK US SHOULD NOT PRESS THIS POINT. BARRING SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS, INSTITUTIONAL REASONS SHOULD NOT PREVENT US FROM TAKING POSITIONS PROTECTIVE OF PLENARY WHEN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY TAKES AN OPPOSITE STANCE.

6. NO OPPOSITION SEEMS LIKELY TO BE AROUSED BY AUSTRALIAN REQUEST FOR ALLOCATION OF TREATY-MAKING ITEM TO LEGAL COMMITTEE AND GRENADA UFO ITEM TO SPC. WE WOULD GO ALONG. WE WOULD ALSO RECOMMEND NOT OBJECTING TO EGYPTIAN REQUEST FOR ALLOCATION OF SETTLEMENTS ITEM OF PLEARY, WHICH IN ANY EVENT WILL BE FOCUS OF PALESTINE AND MIDDLE EAST ITEMS.

7. WE ARE CONSULTING WITH SMUN AND WEO'S TO DETERMINE WHETHER WE CAN GET SOVIET AGREEMENT TO REFER TO NON-USE OF FORCE ITEM BOTH TO THE FIRST AND THE LEGAL COMMITTEES. WE GUESS THE SOVIETS WILL EEEK ESTABLISHMENT BY THE GA OF COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO A NEW NON-USE TREATY. THERE IS SOME CHANCE THAT THE COMMITTEE'S MANDATE WOULD BE MORE FAVORABLE IF THE LEGAL
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COMMITTEE HAD A REAL CHANCE AT INFLUENCING ITS FRAMING. AT THIS POINT THE EVOLVING COMPOSITION OF THE GC SEEMS TO OFFER A REASONABLE POSSIBILITY OF A SUCCESSFUL VOTE WERE THE USSR TO TRY TO INSIST ON ALLOCATION EXCLUSIVELY TO THE FIRST COMMITTEE. IN THAT CASE UKUN IS CONSIDERING TAKING THE LEAD IN PROPOSING THAT THE GC RECOMMEND ALLOCATION EXCLUSIVELY TO THE LEGAL COMMITTEE; THIS WOULD INDUCE SMUN TO AGREE TO JOINT CONSIDERATION OR THE GC WOULD VOTE ON THE ISSUE. WE BELIEVE VOTING COULD BE HELD TO A REASONABLY NON-CONFRONTATIONAL LIMIT AND WILL BE REPORTING FURTHER.

8. ALTHOUGH US-USSR CONSULTATIONS 16 SEPTEMBER REVEALED NOTHING AS TO SUBJECT OF SOVIET INITIAIVES AT 32D SESSION, STAFF-LEVEL COMMENTS SUGGEST GROMYKO WILL BRING TWO ITEMS WHICH HE WILL REVEAL IN SOVIET GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT 27 SEPTEMBER. GC WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH THESE AT A LATER MEETING.

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